


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-14 (previously canceled)

15. (currently amended) A method of injection molding a receptacle fitted with a flat covering label having at least two edges and a thickness less than or equal to 80 microns, in which method the label is ~~shaped in an unflattened configuration, wherein the label is shaped by sealing at least two edges together, the label being~~ inserted into a mold prior to molding, the mold having a mold core, a mold matrix, and a molding space between the core and the matrix, wherein the label is preshaped by sealing said at least two edges together, and the method ~~comprising~~ comprises the successive steps of:

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- (i) gripping with movable pneumatic gripping means an outside face of the ~~shaped label with movable pneumatic gripping means~~ preshaped label having said at least two edges sealed together, said preshaped label being folded in a flat configuration;
 - (ii) ~~transferring and depositing the shaped label onto the core by the movable gripping means;~~ reshaping the folded label in an unflattened rolled configuration with said movable pneumatic gripping means;
 - (iii) ~~closing the mold; and~~ transferring and depositing the unflattened label onto the core by the movable pneumatic gripping means;
 - (iv) closing the mold; and
 - (v) introducing plastics material in the molding space.

16. (previously added) The method recited in claim 15, wherein the shaped label material has a thickness less than or equal to 50 microns.

17. (currently amended) The method recited in claim 15, ~~further comprising the steps~~ of: wherein:

~~storing the shaped covering labels in a stack of a magazine;~~

~~extracting a label from the stack; and~~

~~unflattening the label extracted from stack prior to transferring the label to the mold.~~

at step (i), when gripping said folded flat labels, said folded flat labels are stored in a stack of a magazine; and

at step (ii), before reshaping said folded flat label, said folded flat labels are extracted from said stack by said movable pneumatic gripping means.

18. (previously added) The method recited in claim 15, wherein a plurality of labels are transferred simultaneously to the gripping means.

19. (previously added) The method recited in claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

engaging a portion of the shaped label around a mold core; and

placing the label around the mold core with use of a thrusting member.

Claim 20 (previously canceled)

21. (previously added) The method recited in claim 15, wherein the labels comprise paper.

22. (previously added) The method recited in claim 15 wherein the labels comprise polypropylene.

23. (currently amended) An apparatus for injection molding a receptacle, comprising:
a mold having a male portion and a female portion for molding the receptacle, and
movable pneumatic transfer means capable of depositing a label in the mold before molding the
receptacle, wherein: ~~and operable to receive a covering label that will be interfaced to the~~
~~receptacle wherein the label comprises at least two edges that have been joined together; and~~

~~a movable pneumatic transfer element for pneumatically gripping the label by contacting~~
~~an outside face of the label, and for depositing the label on the male portion of the mold.~~

said male portion is capable of receiving a covering rolled label having at least two edges
sealed together and attaching said label to the receptacle,

said movable pneumatic transfer means are capable of
pneumatically gripping said label under a folded flat configuration by contacting an
outside face of said label,

reshaping said folded flat label into a rolled unflattened configuration, and

depositing the said rolled label on said male portion of the mold.

24. (currently amended) The apparatus recited in claim 23 comprising:

a magazine for storing a group of flat labels in a stack wherein ~~the group of labels have been shaped and flattened~~ said folded flat labels have been shaped in a folded configuration; and

~~an element for unflattening the covering label from the flattened state to an unflattened state~~

gripping said folded label in a folded flat configuration by contacting an outside face of said label within said stack;

extracting said folded label from the stack; and

reshaping said folded flat label in a rolled unflattened configuration.

25. (currently amended) The apparatus recited in claim 24, wherein ~~the unflattening element further comprises:~~ said movable pneumatic transfer means further comprises a blowing element interfaced with the magazine for expanding the label to unflatten the label, wherein the movable pneumatic transfer ~~element~~ means, in communication with the blowing element, grips is capable of gripping said outside face of the label as the label expands to said unflattened state.

26. (currently amended) The apparatus recited in claim 23, wherein the movable pneumatic transfer ~~element~~ means comprises a movable pneumatic transfer support element comprising a plurality of elements for holding the shaped and expanded label and for transferring a plurality of labels simultaneously into a multi-cavity mold.

27. (previously added) The apparatus recited in claim 26, wherein the movable pneumatic transfer support element comprises a plurality of cells each operable to receive at least a portion of an expanded label.

28. (previously added) The apparatus recited in claim 27, further comprising a robot

operable to move the movable pneumatic transfer support element relative to an axis of rotation and an axis of translation.
